OAKHAM

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31ST DECEMBER, 1967

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OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1967

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population	13,060
Number of inhabited houses	3,185
Rateable Value..	£336,264
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1350-8-1d.

VITAL STATISTICS

	Males	Females	Total
Live-Births - Legitimate	117	89	206
Illegitimate	4	6	10
	121	95	216

			E & W 1967
Live Birth Rate	Crude 16.1	Corrected 17.5	17.7
Death Rate	Crude 7.4	Corrected 9.6	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	19.0		19.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	4	6
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	6
Coronary Disease, Angina	9	3
Hypertension with heart disease	-	2
Other heart disease	8	12
Other circulatory disease	5	1
Pneumonia	8	2
Bronchitis	3	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Congenital malformations	-	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	4	3
Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
All other accidents	1	-
	54	42

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health
W.L. Palmer, MB.BS, DPH, DTM & H

Public Health Inspector
G.E. Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods; & Certificates in General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering.

The Public Health Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Examination of specimens from this area was carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester as follows:-

Nose and Throat Swabs	2
Faeces and Urines	5
Water	11
Food	2
Milk	4
	24

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1967

Disease	Total cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	146	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	1	-
Whooping Cough	4	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-

Disease	Under 1	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 44	45 64	Over 65
Measles	6	17	16	26	13	55	9	3	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Only one case of pulmonary tuberculosis was reported during the year 1967.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Number of Samples taken for analysis:-

(a) from wells	-
(b) from piped supply	13

Results from Samples taken:-

(a) from wells:-	Satisfactory	-
	Unsatisfactory	-
(b) from piped supply:-	Satisfactory	11
	Unsatisfactory	2

Number of wells:-

(a) closed	2
(b) cleansed, repairs etc.	-
Number of cases in which piped supply was provided	63

Number of Parishes with pipe water supply:-

(a) from public mains	24
(b) from private reservoirs	2
Number of Parishes without a piped water supply	2

During the year sixty-three additional water connections to houses were made, and piped water supplies are now available to practically the whole of the dwellings in the Rural District. Only two parishes with very few houses, namely Leighfield and Martinsthorpe, are without public or private piped water supplies.

There are private water supplies to twenty-six properties at Egleton and Gunthorpe. During 1967 the work of laying the new 6" water main between Oakham and Manton was completed by the Leicester City Water Department with a view to improving supplies generally in the District. This new main passes through the Parish of Egleton and also through Gunthorpe where connections from the new main to three premises have already been made. The possibility of other dwellings at both Egleton and Gunthorpe being connected up later on is now under consideration. Cottesmore Aerodrome has its own water supply to five-hundred and thirty-two houses at the Married Quarters there.

Water is provided to over two thousand premises in the remaining twenty-four parishes from the mains of the Leicester City Corporation, which acquired this Council's water undertaking in 1959. Existing supplies in the more northerly parishes have been augmented by the Corporation from its mains in adjoining Districts. The Leicester City Corporation has also taken over the responsibility of supplying water to the North Luffenham R.A.F. Station (which includes a large number of properties in the parish of Edith Weston), and also of providing a reserve supply for Cottesmore Aerodrome.

Water supplies in the District generally can be regarded as quite satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Analyses are made regularly by the staff of the Leicester City Water Department. Two samples of drinking water which were submitted for analysis as to lead content during 1967 gave figures of 0.075 p.p.m. and 0.020 p.p.m., and no ill effects possibly arising from plumbo-solvency have ever been reported. The fluoride content of the water supplies in any part of the District is less than 0.2 p.p.m., and the Council has already decided that no objection be raised to any proposal for the addition of fluoride to water supplies in this area.

Particulars of the piped supplies in the various parishes, as required by the Ministry of Health, are as follows:-

December, 1967

WATER SUPPLIES

OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Name of Parish.		No. of dwellings with piped water supply.	Farm and Other Connections.
ASHWELL	L	90	21
BARLEYTHORPE	L	42	6
BARROW	L	21	10
BRAUNSTON	L	113	19
BROOKE	L	4	5
BURLEY	L	88	34
COTTESMORE	L	233	31
EDITH WESTON	L	376	16
EGLETON	P	21	4
EMPINGHAM	L	233	25
EXTON	L	214	45
GREETHAM	L	160	21
GUNTHORPE	P (and L)	8	1
HAMBLETON	L	51	29
HORN	L	2	3
LANGHAM	L	305	33
LEIGHFIELD	-	-	-
LYNDON	L	32	6
MANTON	L	94	24
MARKET OVERTON	L	144	28
MARTINSTHORPE	-	-	-
NORMANTON	L	13	1
STRETTON	L	38	12
TEIGH	L	23	14
THISTLETON	L	32	11
TICKENCOTE	L	16	2
WHISSENDINE	L	273	35
WHITWELL	L	20	10
COTTESMORE AERODROME	A.M.	532	-
		3178	446

L. Leicester City Water Department Supply.

P. Private Piped Supply.

A.M. Air Ministry Supply.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area - continued.

Drainage and Sewerage

Number of septic tanks constructed during the year 7
Number of cesspools abolished during the year 8
Total number on 31st December, 1967 284

Due attention was given during 1967 to the maintenance of the existing sewers and village drains of the District, and general repairs were carried out as necessary. With periodical attention to the pumps and filtration plant as required, the nine sewage disposal works at Braunston, Cottesmore and Greetham, Empingham, Edith Weston, Exton, Langham, Manton, Market Overton and Whissendine continued to function satisfactorily.

The sewerage systems of two small villages, namely Barleythorpe and Egleton, both situated in close proximity to the town of Oakham, are now connected to the disposal works of the Oakham Urban District Council where the sewage receives final treatment.

The alterations and extensions required to the Cottesmore sewage works, (which also serves the large R.A.F. Station at Cottesmore in addition to the village of that name, and Greetham), were approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government some while ago, and have now been put in hand. It is anticipated that these enlarged works will be in full operation by the summer of 1968. The new sewage disposal works and sewerage system at Ashwell were also commenced during 1967, and these are nearing completion. The sewering of the small village of Tickencote, together with the provision of sewage disposal works there, was completed during 1967, and some progress in connecting up the various properties to the new sewerage system had already been made before the end of the year.

Following an Inquiry into the possibility of some residential development taking place in the village of Stretton and an inspection there by a representative of the Welland and Nene River Authority, the Council decided to reconsider the matter of sewering this small village. A scheme was drawn up for the purpose some while ago, but was deferred on account of the heavy cost likely to be involved. After receiving a further report from the Consulting Engineers the Council instructed them to prepare a scheme for the pumping of sewage to Cottesmore and Greetham for final disposal. Preparations for sewering the small village of Hambleton have been suspended following notification from the Welland and Nene River Board that the provision of a large reservoir nearby is contemplated. It is understood that a decision in this matter could possibly be given in 1968, in which case any alterations in the existing scheme found to be necessary would received consideration by the Council. Experience shows that the expense involved in sewering some smaller villages could be so great as to render such schemes uneconomic, particularly where properties are more scattered than is usual elsewhere in the District.

During 1967 twenty-two pail closets were converted to water lavatories, and at the end of the year the number of W.C's at occupied dwellings was 3068, and there were also 107 pail closets still at various other premises within the District.

Some concern was expressed early in the year by residents of the village of Langham at the possibility of further flooding from the brook during times of heavy rain, although considerable alterations had already been made by the Highways Department of the Rutland County Council to one of the bridges there. The Council therefore decided that a length of this watercourse should be cleaned out. This was done in the Spring, and no further flooding there has been reported to date.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year regular weekly collections of refuse from the villages were made, and the new "Packamatic" type scavenging lorry proved extremely useful in dealing with increasing quantities of paper and similar materials removed from premises. The Council decided towards the end of the year

that the older scavenging lorry be replaced in due course by a somewhat smaller "Packamatic" type vehicle capable of reaching out-lying properties and negotiating narrow lanes in some parts of the District. It is understood that this new lorry will be delivered in April, 1968, and will further improve the scavenging services in the District. The number of complaints received in connection with this particular service requiring investigation and attention during the twelve-month period has, however, been remarkably small. Since this new vehicle will not be suitable to deal with the removal of night-soil from the few remaining houses not yet converted in the unsewered parishes of the District, notice has been given that such collections will cease in 1968. The arrangement of emptying septic tanks once per year at the Council's expense at premises out-side of the range of the village sewerage systems was commenced in April, and septic tanks situated on the Council's own housing estates were attended to as occasion arose. All of this work was carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council. The adoption of the tank-emptying scheme has proved of considerable benefit to some house-holders at outlying properties, who have thus been able to receive some assistance from the Council in the matter of final disposal of drainage from their dwellings.

Tipping was carried out in a disused ironstone cutting at Barrow, and restoration of the site, including the necessary levelling and covering over, was proceeding at the same time as required under the Council's agreement with the Ironstone Company. Use was also being made for this purpose of a site adjoining the Lyndon Road at Manton, and also of a former s tone quarry at Empingham. Difficulty was being experienced in finding suitable sites within the District for future tipping purposes where risk of pollution of underground water supplies would be unlikely, and consultations with the Town Planning Committee of the Rutland County Council and the adjoining Districts took place towards the end of the year. The problem is a difficult one, and the possibility of the adoption in due course of a joint scheme for the final disposal of refuse has been under consideration.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including those given elsewhere in this report.

Total number of complaints received	601
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	586

Nature of Inspections	Inspections	Re-visits
Dwelling Houses	883	729
Tents, Vans, Etc.	28	57
Slaughter Houses	Nil	Nil
Dairies and Cowsheds	1	14
Offensive Trades	Nil	Nil
Animal Keeping	4	10
Workshops, Etc.	25	96
Shops	29	118
Other Premises	305	631
	1275	1655

The Public Health Inspector made 1323 visits to the various parishes of of the District. In addition 5 visits were made outside the District.

Notice

Preliminary	Housing	Others
Outstanding 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	447	137
Complied with during year	447	137
Statutory action necessary	7	5
Outstanding 31st December	-	2

Statutory	Housing	Others
Outstanding 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	7	5
Complied with during year	7	5
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December	-	-

Shops

29 Inspections and 118 re-visits were made to shops in the District during 1967. Three of the smaller shops ceased to carry on business and one new shop was erected during this period.

Camping Sites

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year 28

Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued 28

Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during summer months 420

Regulated Buildings	Number in District	No. of Inspections
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.	160	85

The figures shown under Camping Sites above do not include caravans or other temporary dwellings used on the local Aerodromes, which are subject to the direct control of the Government Department concerned.

During 1967 no further sites in the area were licensed for Camping purposes, and no applications to increase the number of vans on existing sites were received or approved.

Apart from several groups of vans at one of the R.A.F. Stations, the only large encampment authorised in the District is at Langham, used chiefly during the summer months, but with some caravan-dwellings occupied during the whole of the year. Suitable sanitary accommodation and other facilities have been provided by the owner of the land to the satisfaction of the Council, and no complaints concerning the premises were received from any of the occupants there during the year.

Gypsies

Several complaints were received during 1967 of encampments of gypsies in various parts of the District, chiefly on highway verges, and this included one particularly large group which, it was understood, had recently been evicted from the Leicester area. Action by the Highways Department of the Rutland County Council and the Leicestershire and Rutland Police was necessary to secure the removal of these caravans, and in one particular instance it was also found necessary to carry out considerable works of clearing up of the site after the gypsies had been moved on.

PEST CONTROL

The Control of Pests in the District has, in common with other Rutland District Councils, now been placed in the hands of Contractors, and their Operator makes regular calls at the offices to receive complaints and make arrangements to deal with rats and similar pests. During 1967 sixty-eight premises were inspected and steps taken to ensure that these were free from infestation, and this service proved quite satisfactory.

HOUSING

Action under the Housing Acts during 1967 resulted in eight premises being closed as unfit for habitation, and three houses being demolished.

During the course of the year, payment of thirty-two improvement grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 towards the costs of modernising private properties were approved subject to satisfactory completion of the works by the owners.

The total number of houses and bungalows owned by the Council at the end of 1967 was four-hundred-and-seventy-six, of which one-hundred-and-nine were built prior to 1940.

The number of applicants for Council Houses on the Housing Register at the close of the year was one-hundred-and-eighty, of which seventy-three were from persons living outside of the District, and thirteen from tenants of Council Houses within the area who wished to exchange tenancies.

PROVISIONS OF NEW HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

During 1967, twenty dwellings at Empingham and Edith Weston were completed and let by the Council. Of these eight were bungalows, in connection with which the Rutland County Council have made grants.

Forty houses were built by private enterprise during 1967, and some further houses were completed by the Air Ministry at the Married Quarters at the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston.

The Council has additional sites for house-building purposes at Manton, Braunston and Greetham, and it is hoped that building works there will be put in hand later on in 1968.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises) on Register	1
Number of inspections of premises	14
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	-
Contraventions remedied during year	-
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st December	-

No ice-cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are twenty-nine premises registered by the Council from which prepacked ice-cream is sold.

Meat and other Foods

Nineteen inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores and preparing Rooms, and one-hundred-and-two inspections and re-inspections of premises where food other than meat was kept or prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this District is by burning.

Since slaughtering at the last three remaining slaughter-houses in this District ceased on June 30th, 1963 (as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the provisions of the Slaughter-house Act of 1958), all meat sold from the three butchers' shops in this District has been obtained from animals killed elsewhere, and no difficulty seems to have arisen in maintaining a constant supply.

During 1967 it was necessary to condemn and arrange for the destruction of 196 lbs. of tinned foodstuffs and two $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. pork pies.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

The whole of the shops in the District were inspected and practically all reinspected during the course of 1967 for the purpose of securing compliance with the above Regulations. It was again found that, generally speaking, the shops were very well maintained and the requirements relating to the handling of foods were being observed in a satisfactory manner.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention

It was unnecessary during 1967 to take legal action to remove any elderly persons to suitable Homes under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. Enquiries were, however, carried out in several cases where information was received that old people might be living in difficult circumstances, but in no instance was direct intervention by this Council required to secure the removal of persons concerned.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During 1967 sixty-four inspections were made at the twenty-seven registered premises for the purposes of the Regulations. There are no large industrial establishments, wholesale warehouses or shops in the District; the premises concerned are mostly very small.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) Factories in which Sections. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	12	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. ..	5	39	1	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' Premises)..	19	68	3	-
TOTAL	25	119	4	-

2 cases in which Defects were found:-

Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness. (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences. (S.7.) (b) Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	-	-	-
TOTAL ..	4	4	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork
(Section 133 and 134)

Nature of work.	Section 133			Section 134		
(1)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council. (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served. (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
Wearing apparel. Making, etc.	25	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and Upholstery.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	-	-	-	-	-